

SPECIAL MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
Educational Service Center
Minutes – Pending Board Approval
February 24, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

I.	Call to Order	1
II.	Roll Call of Members	1
III.	Approval of Agenda	1
IV.	Approval of Closed Session / Closed Session	1
V.	Adjourn Closed Session / Return to Open Session	1
VI.	Adjourn	1

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February 24, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

President Saint called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

Present: Directors Albert, Colling, Goodvin, Greenwell, Saint and Scarlett

Absent: Director Alarcon-Flory

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Greenwell moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 6 to 0.

IV. Approval of Closed Session / Closed Session

Director Colling moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to go into a closed session to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential or to be kept confidential as a condition for that governmental body's possession or continued receipt of federal funds as provided in Section 21.5(1)(a) of the Iowa Code. The motion carried 6 to 0, and the Board retired to closed session at 5:01 p.m.

V. Adjourn Closed Session / Return to Open Session

Director Albert moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to adjourn a closed session and return to open session. The motion carried 6 to 0, and the Board returned to open session at 5:51 p.m.

VI. Adjourn

Director Colling moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to adjourn the special meeting. The motion carried 6 to 0, and the special meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Jeremy Saint, Board President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Cynthia A. Lloyd, Board Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors

REGULAR MEETING
Sioux City Community School District
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Minutes – Pending Board Approval
February 24, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

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C. Finance Report(s)	
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E. Riverside Elementary School HVAC Equipment Purchase Project	
F. Tri-State Compact for Career and Technical Education Between SCCSD, Dakota Valley School District and South Sioux City Community School District	
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REGULAR MEETING
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Minutes – Pending Board Approval
February 24, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

President Saint called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Members

Present: Directors Alarcon-Flory (7:45 p.m.), Albert, Colling, Goodvin, Greenwell, Saint and Scarlett

III. Approval of Agenda

Director Albert moved and Director Colling seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried 6 to 0.

IV. Good News Report(s) – West High School

Principal April Tidwell, Assistant Principal Rebecca Rieken, and Staff Members Hailey Jensen, Bailey Galven, Jen Gengler, and Allyson Siefker shared information about how Balanced Leadership has helped them improve and impact West High with their building goals, how it has helped them grow as individuals, what their biggest personal take away is and why, and what their next steps are moving forward.

V. Citizen Input.

Tony and Shana Michalski, 3260 Jennings St., stated that they attended a Special Education parent meeting at East High School on February 13; noting that some issues have not been appropriately addressed. They hope these issues can be resolved internally, and also provided copies of a timeline to the Board.

Jennifer Pottorff, 2001 McKinley St., stated her daughter was injured during PE class at West Middle School on February 6 from a new challenge “The Skull Breaker”. She shared concerns with the investigation process, and encouraged the Board to make certain staff and parents are aware of this new challenge where kids are getting seriously injured.

Chad Krastel, 912 S. Cornelia St., spoke about District policies and state law as related to an incident involving his daughter. He referenced a petition in support of the Superintendent’s resignation.

VI. Consent Action Item(s)

Director Scarlett moved and Director Colling seconded the motion to approve the following Consent Action Items. The motion carried 6 to 0.

- A. Board Meeting Minutes from February 10, 2020 – Dr. Paul Gausman
- B. Human Resources Report(s) – Dr. Rita Vannatta
- C. Finance Report(s) – Patty Blankenship
- D. Janitorial Equipment, Supplies and Services Agreement with Hillyard, Inc. – Brian Fahrendholz
- E. Riverside Elementary School HVAC Equipment Purchase Project – Brian Fahrendholz
- F. Tri-State Compact for Career and Technical Education Between SCCSD, Dakota Valley School District and South Sioux City Community School District – Jim Vanderloo

VII. Hearing(s)

- A. FY21 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects – Brian Fahrendholz

President Saint stated notice was provided that a hearing would be held at 6:00 p.m., local time, at the Educational Service Center, 627 4th Street, Sioux City, Iowa, on the 24th day of February, 2020 to receive public input on the proposed plans, specifications, and estimated costs, including architectural fees, provided by FEH Design of Sioux City, Iowa, of \$449,000 for the District's FY21 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects.

He stated any interested party may appear and file objections and any information for or against same will be heard on the above-named project with the final decision of the Board of Education a matter of record.

Director Albert moved and Director Greenwell seconded the motion to approve the plans, specifications, and estimated costs, including architectural fees, provided by FEH Design of Sioux City, Iowa, of \$449,000 for the District's FY21 Annual Roof Repairs, Maintenance, and Replacement Projects. The motion carried 6 to 0.

VIII. Board Member Reports / Future Meetings

Director Scarlett:

- This is the final week of Black History Month.
 - In 1955, Ms. Evelyn Freeman was the first African-American teacher at the elementary level in our District, and almost a year later, Mr. Curtis Hayes became the first black male teacher at the middle school level in our District. She is now the third African-American to be elected to our District.
- She attended the Ours Parent Group meeting at the Career Academy, the Student Achievement Committee meeting, and the School Improvement Advisory Committee meeting.
- She, President Saint and Ron Colling attended the Conference Board meeting.
- She attended the 5th grade meet and greet at North Middle School on February 19.
- She was present at the state legislative meeting on February 22.

Director Greenwell:

- He attended the February 13 Special Education parent forum, noting that parents are eager for information and want to hear from the Special Education Department on a regular basis. He asked the Administration to follow up regarding current policy and why some elementaries are allowed to pull students out of the classroom, but middle schools are not.
- He is not in favor of K12 *Insight* as the firm the District will use regarding issues at West Middle School, but understands the majority of the Board are and will yield to the majority. He stated Dr. Gausman is listed as a consultant on a website and asked if he had received any form of compensation or fees over the past 3 years. He recalled mention of his theory that issues at West Middle originated from a terminated teacher and believes this will interfere with the process. He reminded the administration and staff this is a big concern, and hopes there is no retribution against any teachers for speaking out.

Director Colling:

- He visited East Middle School last week where he observed a math class, visited with a group of English Language Arts people during their PLC, discussed some teacher concerns, and has now been in every school in the District at least once.
- He attended the Conference Board meeting.
- He made an appointment with City Assessor, John Lawson.

Director Albert:

- She thanked Ms. Scarlett for the history lesson and stated it is a pleasure to with the third African-American elected to the District.
- She participated in the Board Policy Committee meeting.
- She has signed up for some webinars to educate herself on the workings of the Board.

Future Meetings are as follows:

- Preschool Initiative Oversight Committee – 1:00 p.m., February 26, 2020, Bryant Elementary School.
- Educational Equity Committee – 11:30 a.m., February 28, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Student Achievement Committee – Noon, March 2, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Board Finance & Facilities Committee – 3:00 p.m., March 2, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., March 9, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- School Improvement Advisory Committee – 5:15 p.m., March 12, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Educational Equity Committee – 11:30 a.m., March 13, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., March 23, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Board Policy Committee – 4:30 p.m., March 24, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Education Legislative Forum – 8:30 a.m., March 28, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Sales Tax Finance Oversight Committee – 8:00 a.m., March 30, 2020, ESC Board Room.
- Regular School Board Meeting – 6:00 p.m., **Tuesday**, April 14, 2020, ESC Board Room.

IX. Superintendent's Report

- He is proud of Lorena Perales, sophomore at East High School, who was selected to be a State Officer for the State Student Councils of Iowa.
- He provided an update of the process to bring in a third party to work with West Middle School staff to learn more about the challenges and to recommend research-based solutions.
 - Multiple options were considered. The Teachers' Association was asked to bring options to the table if they desired. Initial options were vetted through guiding priorities shared at the last public Board meeting. The Teachers' Association added the following three additional guiding priorities:

- Third party agency should be an expert in matters of education.
- Third party agency should not have any strong connections with West Middle.
- Recommendations to be implemented should be done by a committee on school culture involving both SCEA and Central Administration.
- The decision came down to two agencies.
 - He asked the leadership of SCEA to call each of the two agencies to discuss the process with those who would serve West Middle.
- SCEA President and Uniserv Director engaged in phone calls with the two agencies and included two SCEA members who are staff members at West Middle. He did not participate in the calls.
- He shared two proposals with each Board member separately through the Committee process to make a decision after receiving the following feedback:
 - The team from the SCEA and five Board members preferred one vendor including Dr. Gerald Dawkins and Dr. David Blaiklock from *K12 Insight*. One other Board member did not give an opinion as they felt it should be the Superintendent's decision.
- He indicated he has never consulted for or received payment from *K12 Insight*.
- He has hired the agency selected and supported by the Teachers' Association, and work will begin in March.

X. Items of Presentation, Discussion, and/or Action

A. FY21 School Nutrition Budget – Patty Blankenship

President Saint stated the Board acknowledges the information regarding the District's FY21 School Nutrition budget.

B. FY21 General Fund Revenues and Expenditures Review and Property Tax Rate Discussion – Patty Blankenship

Directors Greenwell and Goodvin requested the District look into potential cost savings from travel expenses and consulting fees. When placing 29 new teachers, Director Goodvin recommended emphasis on the core subjects of math, reading, English and history at the middle school level first.

Dr. Gausman requested Board consensus direction, or by vote, what it is they would like him to do. He needs more clarity than just a single Board member requesting data of him. He will provide a report to the Board in a public meeting where the 29 positions will be placed in the District. Director Greenwell asked if class size data will be included and Dr. Gausman said it would.

Director Albert asked Director Greenwell what percentage of the total budget is travel and what percentage of those dollars were grant funded. Director Greenwell replied that a very small percentage; between \$550K - \$600K, and a reasonable amount are grant funded.

Director Goodvin asked if an agenda item could be added requesting the administration look into travel. Director Albert believes more time for thought is necessary, noting we cannot simply look at travel as travel but remember Professional Development. When we stop developing our teachers and administrators, we stop growing as a District. President Saint stated he will give this some thought as to how to put this in front of the Board.

Director Greenwell shared materials he prepared regarding the Management Fund which is built into the tax rate. He suggested reducing the Management Fund by \$800K and decrease the levy by another .27 cents. The Board, by consensus, asked the Administration to look into potential cost savings and report back at the next Board meeting.

President Saint stated the Board acknowledges the information presented regarding the District's FY21 General Fund estimated revenues and proposed expenditures and property tax rates.

The Board took a 5 minute break.

C. Boundary Adjustment Recommendations – Dr. Brian Burnight

Director Greenwell shared materials he prepared regarding class sizes and suggested the District hold listening sessions for public input. The Board, by consensus, requested placing an item on the next two Board meeting agendas for public comment.

D. 2019-2020 Employee Engagement Survey Results – Mandie Mayo

Director Greenwell requested the data be provided by individual school. Dr. Gausman to include this date in his weekly *Informational Update*. Director Scarlett encouraged everyone to participate.

President Saint stated the Board acknowledges the information presented regarding the results of the Employee Engagement Survey.

E. Administrator Compensation Plan Program Review – Dr. Kim Buryanek

President Saint stated the Board acknowledges the *Administrator Compensation Plan Program Review* and recommendations.

F. First Reading of Board Policies – Dr. Paul Gausman

- 402.7 403(B) Retirement Accounts
- 504.5 Student-Driven Vehicles, Motorcycles, Mopeds, Skateboards, Bicycles, Roller Skates, In-Line Skates, Scooters
- 504.11 Health and Immunization Certificates
- 602.11 Physical Education
- 1004.9 Community Use of School Equipment
- 1081 School-Police Resource Officer

Director Alarcon-Flory moved and Director Scarlett seconded the motion to approve the above Board policies for first reading. The motion carried 7 to 0.

XI. Adjourn

Director Scarlett moved and Director Alarcon-Flory seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting. The motion carried 7 to 0, and the regular meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Jeremy Saint, Board President
SCCSD Board of Directors

Cynthia A. Lloyd, Board Secretary
SCCSD Board of Directors